

Volume 1, Number 8, Nov/Dec 2006

VSS News at a Glance

*Victims Services Section
Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services*



*Happy Holidays to You and Your Family
from the Victims Services Staff*

State Offices Closed for Holiday!

Friday, December 22 – Close at Noon

Monday, December 25

Tuesday, December 26

Monday, January 1

Tuesday, January 2

Victim/Witness Funding

As you may know, the 2006 Appropriation Act directed DCJS to prepare a report on the current and projected status of federal, state and local funding for victim/witness programs supported by the Victim- Witness Fund.

As you may also be aware, currently, there are 102 local grant funded victim/witness programs and four statewide victim assistance programs. These local programs are primarily located in prosecutors' offices and law enforcement agencies, and, in FY2006, they provided direct services to over 64,000 victims.

The funding report was submitted to the Secretary of Public Safety, and the chairmen of the House and Senate money committees, in advance of the October 16th deadline.

The report outlines some concerns regarding the funding outlook for these important programs providing essential direct services to crime victims.

For example, we reported that available Fund revenue is no longer sufficient to maintain current programs statewide.

And, without an FY2008 appropriation of at least \$2.7 million in General Funds, grant awards to victim/witness programs may have to be reduced by 15-30%.

The report outlines a number of reasons why appropriation of additional General Funds to close the funding gap in FY2008 and beyond is appropriate and very important. These include the following:

- Victim/Witness programs are the *only* victim assistance programs with a Code responsibility to implement the Victims Bill of Rights and to serve all types of crime victims within the criminal justice system.

- Funding is viewed as a state responsibility.
- Programs are currently significantly under funded and under-staffed, and additional cutbacks cannot be absorbed without significant impact on services to crime victims and local programs.
- Cash match is viewed as inequitable.
- No new state funds have been invested in programs in more than 10 years.
- Without allocation of additional General Funds it is estimated that annually more than 15,000 victims will not receive program services.

The funding report is now available on the web through the General Assembly's Legislative Information System. You can go directly to the report by clicking on the following link:

<http://leg2.state.va.us/DLS/h&sdocs.nsf/5c7ff392dd0ce64d85256ec400674ecb/3ef5df7714be284c8525718f0054b04d?OpenDocument&Highlight=0,victim>

For further information, please contact John Mahoney, your grant monitor, or Mandie Patterson.



Sign Up For National Crime Victims' Rights Week Resources

Once again, the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) within the U.S. Department of Justice is producing a NCVRW Resource Guide, theme poster, and theme DVD to help the field promote NCVRW this April in communities across America. You can visit OVC's web site at www.ovc.gov, and click on the "NCVRW" icon in the left column (the link says "sign up for a free poster and guide"), which will link you to signing up to make sure you are "on the list" for 2007.

These excellent public awareness resources can also be ordered via telephone from the OVC Resource Center by calling toll-free 800.851.3420 (TTY 877.712.9279).



OVC DIRECTOR JOHN W. GILLIS ANNOUNCES THE AVAILABILITY OF THE ONLINE APPLICATION FOR THE INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM VICTIM EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM (ITVERP)

OVC is now accepting applications for the International Terrorism Victim Expense Reimbursement Program (ITVERP). The Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000 authorized the U.S. Department of Justice (USDOJ), Office of Justice Programs' (OJP), Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) to create a program to reimburse victims of international terrorism for expenses incurred as a result of acts occurring outside the United States. Final regulations for the ITVERP were approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and published in the [Federal Register](http://www.federalregister.gov) on September 6, 2006. On October 6, 2006, ITVERP became operational. The ITVERP application is available on the OVC Web site at www.ovc.gov.

The victim reimbursement program is retroactive to December 21, 1988. Potential claimants, which include United States nationals and U.S. Government officers or employees, may be reimbursed for expenses associated with their victimization. In the event the victim was killed as a result of an act of international terrorism, eligible program applicants may include the deceased victim's spouse, parents, children, siblings, or a victim representative.

The five major categories of expenses for which applicants may seek reimbursement under the new program are medical costs (including rehabilitation costs), mental health counseling, funeral and burial expenses, property loss, and other miscellaneous expenses such as emergency travel and temporary lodging.

For more information on ITVERP, please visit the OVC Web site at www.ovc.gov, contact the ITVERP Resource Center at 1-800-363-0441, or ITVERP@usdoj.gov

Domestic Awareness Month Recap

The DCJS Victims Services' Bake Sale, held during Domestic and Sexual Violence Prevention Month netted just under \$200.00, which was given to the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance's Victim Fund. This fund, which is also supported by local businesses, is used to provide direct services to victims of domestic and sexual violence. DCJS also held a successful cell phone drive and had several public awareness displays setup in the lobby. DCJS would also like to thank each of you for informing us of your local events being held State-wide.

VSS Staff Changes

Nikole Sarvay, coordinator of the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Victim Fund, will be leaving the Victims Services Section at the end of the year. Nikole's last day with DCJS will be Friday, December 29, 2006. For questions or information about the VSDVVF, please contact Deb Downing (804-371-8635 or deb.downing@dcjs.virginia.gov) or Kay Edwards (804-786-3973 or kassandra.edwards@dcjs.virginia.gov). We will miss Nikole very much and wish her the best of luck.

Mark Your Calendars!

Program Management Training – March 14-16, 2007

Plans are underway for our annual Program Management Training for Victim/Witness, Sexual Assault, V-STOP, and the Domestic and Sexual Violence Fund Program staff. The training will be held **March 14-16, 2007 at the Hospitality House in Williamsburg, Virginia**. This is our premier training event of the year and we have some interesting and timely workshops planned!

We have secured two nationally-known speakers, Kathleen O'Hara and Anna Salter. Ms. O'Hara is the author of the book, *A Grief Like No Other, A Seven-Stage Plan to Help You Survive the Unthinkable*. A licensed psychologist by profession, Ms. O'Hara's son was kidnapped and murdered along with his college roommate when they were robbed by two assailants. She used her training as a therapist and her grief as a parent to write a concrete yet compassionate guide to dealing with traumatic loss. Although her situation deals with homicide, all crime victims and victim service providers can benefit from her suggestions on working through the trauma of loss and violence that so often shatters so many lives. For

more information on Ms. O'Hara, visit her website at: www.kathleenohara.com

Ms. Anna Salter is a nationally-known expert on sex offenders. She has conducted interviews with sex offenders in prison for many years and has used this data to analyze how these offenders select their victims, why they offend, and how they attract their victims. Ms. Salter received her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology and Public Practice from Harvard University and obtained a Masters Degree in Child Study from Tufts. She was a Teaching Fellow at both Universities. She is also the author of several non-fiction and fiction books. Please visit her website at: www.annasalter.com

We are still planning some of our workshops for this training event. If you have a topic or have heard a speaker that you would like to recommend for this training, please e-mail Becky Sirles, the VSS training coordinator at: Becky.Sirles@dcjs.virginia.gov. We look forward to seeing you at the training!

Law Enforcement Training for Trainers – April 3-5, 2007

DCJS will present **Law Enforcement Response to Domestic Violence Training for Trainers April 3-5, 2007**. The training will be held at the New River Criminal Justice Academy. This training will involve a **competitive application process**. Interested candidates must apply as a team, which should include a law enforcement officer, a victim advocate, and/or a victim/witness advocate. Prosecutors, and others who work with domestic violence victims, are also encouraged to apply. Further information will be forthcoming in a later edition but please go ahead and mark your calendars!

We are currently planning our agenda and you will hear more about this training in the coming months. This is one of our major trainings of the year, and we look forward to seeing you at this informational and invigorating training.

Fourth National Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) Training Conference

Individual Law Enforcement Scholarships available for the Fourth National Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) Training Conference

A limited number of scholarships covering travel, lodging, and the conference registration fee will be available for *individual* law enforcement officers interested in attending the Fourth National Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) Training Conference to be held on May 30 – June 1, 2007 in Tampa, FL. To learn more about the conference, the scholarship process and download application, [click here](#). For additional information about the conference, please visit: www.sane-sart.com

Contact Serena Werner, 1-800-THE-IACP ext. 806 or Werner@theiacp.org.

Two-Day Training Program in Virginia

Nurturing Healthy Sexual Development™

A Program of Prevent Child Abuse Vermont The Nurturing Healthy Sexual Development training helps participants better understand the sexual development of children, and how to respond to children's sexual behaviors and questions in ways that promote healthy development. This training also recognizes that a crucial component of nurturing healthy sexual development is protecting children from sexual abuse. Participants will gain an understanding of the scope of child sexual abuse and the relationship between healthy sexuality and child sexual abuse prevention. This training is a prerequisite to the Care For Kids training.

Care For Kids

Early Childhood Healthy Sexuality Education & Abuse Prevention Program: The Care For Kids program prepares early childhood educators and other adults to be proactive in preventing child sexual abuse through healthy sexuality education. Care For Kids is a comprehensive, community-based approach to prevention that provides early childhood educators, parents and other professionals with information, materials, and resources to communicate positive messages about healthy sexuality to young children. Training participants will learn how to implement the program in their community and provide workshops for local childcare providers to teach the Care For Kids children's curriculum.

Thursday, December 7 - Friday, December 8, 2006 9:30 am to 4:00 pm @ the CASA offices in Harrisonburg, VA. Cost: \$125/person or \$75/first day only Organizational discount: \$100 each/2+ participants; \$85 each/3+ participants

Important Dates & Trainings

12/2/06	VSDVAA Gala Event. For further information contact the Alliance at (804) 377-0335.
12/6/06	Statewide Sexual Violence Prevention Advisory Board Meeting, Richmond, Virginia.
12/13/06	VSDVVF Prosecution Grant Teleconference. For more information contact Nikole Sarvay at (804) 786-5367.
12/14/06	Criminal Justice Services Board Meeting
12/14/06	Victim/Witness Issues Subcommittee Meeting
12/21/06	VSDVVF Prosecution Grant Teleconference. For more information contact Nikole Sarvay at (804) 786-5367.
5/30-6/1/07	Fourth National SART Training Conference, Tampa, Florida. For more information go to http://www.sane-sart.com

Resources

Grant Money!!!

National Funding Opportunities

In 2007-08 one-year and two-year grants will be awarded \$2,000-\$10,000 Application deadline is January 15, 2007.

ONE-YEAR GRANTS (\$2,000-\$7,000 over one year) One-year grants provide seed money for new projects. Topic areas are unrestricted, but should include a clearly defined activity that promotes education and equity for women and girls.

TWO-YEAR GRANTS (\$5,000-\$10,000 over two years) Two-year grants provide start-up funds for longer-term programs that address the particular needs of the community and develop girls' sense of efficacy through leadership or advocacy opportunities. Topic areas are unrestricted, but should include a clearly defined activity that promotes education and equity for women and girls

The above funding opportunity is through the American Association of University Women. For more information visit http://www.aauw.org/fga/fellowships_grants/community_action.cfm or call 319/337-1716 ext. 60 or e-mail aauw@act.org.

Office for Victims of Crime Scholarship Programs & HOPE Grant Opportunities

The Office for Victims of Crime has announced the availability of Professional Development Scholarships to those who work with victims of crime. The program provides up to \$1,000 for individuals and up to \$5,000 for multidisciplinary teams for victim service professionals seeking continuing education opportunities. The scholarship is administered by the Office for Victims of Crime Training and Technical Assistance Center (OVC TTAC). OVC TTAC provides comprehensive quality training and technical assistance resources to victim service providers and other professionals. For more information go to <http://www.ovcttac.org/taResources/scholarship.cfm>

The Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) has a State Crime Victim/Survivor Scholarship Program for eligible agencies and organizations sponsoring state conferences that focus on enhancing victim services. The program provides agencies with funds to offer scholarships that help eligible victims/survivors attend their conference. This scholarship program is administered by OVC's Training and Technical Assistance Center (TTAC). For more information on either of these scholarships go to <http://www.ovcttac.org/taResources/scholarship.cfm>

The **Helping Outreach Programs to Expand (HOPE)** grant program is part of OVC's funding efforts to support victim assistance programs at the grass roots level. The U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) will provide up to \$10,000 in funding to grassroots community- and faith-based victim service organizations and coalitions to improve outreach and services to crime victims, through support of program development, networking, coalition building, and service delivery. Funds may be used to develop program literature, train advocates, produce a newsletter, support victim outreach efforts, and recruit volunteers. For more information, please contact: Office for Victims of Crime, Tel.: 202-307-5983 or go to <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/fund/expandingoutreach/welcome.html>

Funding Alerts

If you are interested in receiving funding alerts directly from the National Sexual Violence Resource Center, please send your e-mail address to FUNDINGALERT@PCADV.ORG with Funding Alert in the subject line. The current FUNDING ALERT can be accessed at:

http://new.vawnet.org/Assoc_Files_VAWnet/FundingAlert-V1N19.pdf

Identity Theft

Website for information regarding Identity Theft <http://www.idtheftcenter.org/index.shtml>

Identity Crime Web Site Launched

As part of a 3-year partnership between the International Association of Chiefs of Police and Bank of America, www.IDSafety.org was designed to help both consumers and law enforcement officials prevent and report identity crime, investigate perpetrators, and respond effectively to victims. (BJA)

Other Resources

Discover the OVC National Calendar of Events

More than 600 events have been added to the [OVC National Calendar of Events](#) since it was introduced in January 2006. Join the hundreds who have already discovered this essential online tool. It allows you to locate, plan, and promote victim assistance-related events nationwide. Add your 2007 victim-assistance related events today. (OVC)

New Guide Helps Manage Sex Offenders

"[Managing Sex Offenders: Citizens Supporting Law Enforcement](#)" highlights relevant sex offender legislation impacting law enforcement, identifies emerging operational challenges for law enforcement executives, and offers examples of how law enforcement agencies are using citizens to enhance and support their sex offender management and enforcement efforts. (BJA)

NIJ Seeks Multiple Research Proposals

NIJ is seeking research proposals on the following topics: Intimate Partner Violence; Response to Sexual Violence; Forensic Analysis of Fire and Arson Evidence; Social Science's Impact on Terrorism; Impression Evidence; Crime Scene Tools, Techniques, and Technologies; and Information-Led Policing, Development, Testing, and Evaluation. View NIJ's [Funding Opportunities page](#) for more information. (NIJ)

Crime Prevention Presentations Available

The National Crime Prevention Council, in partnership with BJA, has released the second set of [Crime Prevention PowerPoint Presentations](#). These presentations are designed to be used by local law enforcement officers and other crime prevention practitioners to provide information to communities on crime issues and prevention strategies. (BJA)

FBI Releases School Crime Data

"[Synopsis of Crime in Schools and Colleges: A Study of National Incident-Based Reporting System \(NIBRS\) Data](#)" (NCJ 216107) (3 pp.) examines the characteristics of offenders involved in crimes at school and college locations. Data are reported by state and local law enforcement agencies for 2000 to 2004. The full study is forthcoming. (OJJDP)

Employment Opportunities

Military Victim Advocate/Sexual Assault Response Coordinator for Fort Lee

The Victim Advocate Coordinator acts as a liaison with the FAP Manager to ensure that comprehensive victim services are provided through a coordinated community response to the victims of abuse in accordance with regulations and local SOPs. The VAC responds to referrals from victims of abuse (domestic violence and sexual assault), or referrals from the FAP Manager, FAP Social Workers (Case Managers) at the medical treatment facility, Social Work Service (SWS), the Provost Marshal or civilian agencies serving victims of abuse.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Bachelor's degree in social work, psychology, marriage, family and child counseling or behavioral science, education, community health or public health.
- Minimum two years experience working with victims of sexual assault, domestic violence or victim advocacy and services.
- Experience providing training to audiences of varying sizes.
- Minimum one year experience working with a military or civilian social service agency.
- Experience working in a military environment preferred.

SUBMIT RESUME TO:

Zeiders Enterprises, Inc. Attn: 06-386
3421 Commission Court, Suite 101
Woodbridge, VA 22192
FAX: 800-286-2703
E-Mail: jobs@zeiders.com
CLOSING DATE: Open until filled

How to Submit Your Training Announcements or Employment Opportunities

If you have any trainings/activities/employment opportunities you would like to have listed, please send them to Candace Miles by the 1st of each month. We will make every effort to include them depending on space and/or time limitations.

To access this document go to www.dcjs.virginia.gov/victims

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